Buchlyvie Community Council Meeting
Minute of Meeting
27/08/2026 at 7.30pm
Buchlyvie Village Hall

Present:

Maureen Burnside (Chair)
Margaret Bennie (Vice Chair)
Fionna Armour (Treasurer)
Colin Mutch (Planning)
Jessica Langford (Member)
Cathy Stokes (Member)

Brian Roberts, Chief Executive, Stirling Council
Gary Neill, Road and Land Service Manager, Stirling Council
Councillor Rosemary Fraser

Apologies: Alison Moffat (Secretary)
Minutes: Caroline Stewart

Residents: 26 residents in attendance

1. **Welcome, recording of those present.**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the August meeting. This was Maureen's first meeting as Chair after the resignation of Jessica at the June meeting. She welcomed Councillor Rosemary Fraser and Brian Roberts, Chief Executive, Stirling Council who has visited 30 CCs over the year to listen and get to know the communities. Gary Neill, Road and Land Service Manager had also come along with regards to issues with speeding. The Community Police were invited but were unable to attend.

2. **Recording of Declarations of Interest**

Nothing declared

The Chair wanted to acknowledge the recent death of Paul Henke and pass on the CCs condolences to his family.

3. **Discussion of speeding in the village**

The current message regarding speeding is not working and residents have been raising concerns for years. The photos of recent incidents were shared with Gary. The CC requested the results of the data survey from Stirling Council which they now have, and Colin has been analysing them. Stirling Council have also analysed the data and based on this there are no speed reduction measures planned for Buchlyvie for this year. Stirling Council have measured speeding in 50 villages where 20mph speed limits are in place, Buchlyvie was 17 out of 53 worst and the funding will go to the top 10 villages.

Gary Neill introduced himself and provided background information. The Scottish Government has given local authorities funding to introduce 20mph speed limits, with specific criteria covering signs and road markings. Where there are issues with non-compliance, it is the responsibility of the local authority to address them.

Surveys have therefore been carried out in rural areas across Stirling. In Buchlyvie, surveys were completed at three locations, with recorded speeds of 22–26mph, 21–25mph in the village centre, and 25–27mph on the Balfron side. The enforcement threshold is 24mph. Gary advised that other areas in Stirling have greater non-compliance issues, and Stirling Council can currently only fund larger engineering measures at the top ten priority sites. He also explained that incidents are only counted where personal injury has occurred, in line with the system used by Police Scotland. Stirling Council recognises that compliance in Buchlyvie is poor and wants to take action, using other funding streams where possible. Gary asked for community feedback on what measures residents feel would help, as Stirling Council uses an evidence-based matrix to support its decisions.

Colin has also analysed the data and gave some content. Colin has recently graduated as a Forensic Psychologist and has an interest in statistics Colin's summary presented the key findings from the fully Automatic Traffic Counter (ATC) recorded in Buchlyvie between Friday 6th March to Friday 14th March 2026.The evidence demonstrated a level of speeding, non-compliance and risk that is significantly higher than indicated by Stirling Councils priority ranking. Colin went through the volume of traffic going through the village over the 7-day period covered. The volume is comparable to a major rural through road and not a low-priority village road. The data was also recorded in March which is before the start of the tourist season. Therefore, those figures are likely to be a lot higher during peak periods due to an increase in rental cars, motorhomes and coaches carrying tourists towards Loch Lomond. This is due to Buchlyvie being situated on the A811 which is the main route to Loch Lomond from the East. In summary the full ATC dataset shows that Buchlyive is experience extreme levels of speeding, particularly during school related peak periods. The current priority rank does not reflect the true level of risk. A reassessment is necessary, justified and urgent. Due to the dataset not including the peak tourist months (April to October) the risk level could be considered the be higher during these months due to the higher volume of traffic travelling through Buchlvie. Also, the increase in traffic would include more nervous drivers in rental cars/motorhomes who are unfamiliar with Scottish roads and road traffic legislation. Therefore, further research should be done to include this data when reassessing Buchlyvie's position ranking.

Colin's data will be sent to Gary to give him time to consider it.

Questions to Gary Neill:

- How many accidents were in the top 10 villages – 133 over a 5-year period with the most accidents taking place in Henderson Street, Bridge of Allan, Buchlyvie had 8 it was highlighted incidents are only included where there has been an injury.
- A member of the public explained to Gary that her daughter was hit by a vehicle while crossing the road to get the school bus at age 14 and would have been seriously injured if the vehicle had been travelling any faster. This incident was not included in the report.
- Councillor Fraser advised that Arnprior are facing similar issues particularly with vehicles overtaking and the Police are coming out to do work with them. Councillor Fraser would be happy to discuss with Police Scotland if they could do something similar in Buchlyvie.

- Gary asked what measures the community would want as a solution as this could be included in next year's budget.
- A member of the public asked if the statistics are adjusted to reflect population size. Gary advised that it is down to the severity of the accident.
- Colin Mutch has spoken to the Police, and they have been invited to the next CC meeting.
- Dunblane and Bridge of Allan have set up a group who have been training to do Community Speed Watch, and this has been going well. The role is to note down registration and pass it to the police who issue a warning letter. This idea was discussed at the last meeting. A representative from Dunblane has been invited to the October meeting.
- A member of the public asked how much it would cost to install an island at the 30mph signs. There used to be an island at the petrol station, which was removed due to being hit on numerous occasions.

Station Road – Maureen declared an interest. It is classed as minor road but is completely overgrown and is not safe to walk on, neither is the bridge. The CC have asked Stirling Council to consider it as an Active Travel Route. The road is heavily used by the farming community with vehicles often doing excess speed.

4. The Triangle and Mye Path

Maureen provided an update following an email from Stirling Council. The car at the Triangle has been classified as an abandoned vehicle, and a specific process must now be followed. The issue has been ongoing since March 2025, but no action could previously be taken as ownership could not be established. Maureen has followed this up, and the rubbish has also now been removed. The Community Council discussed what action it could take to address ongoing issues. Brian Roberts advised that, if the issue relates to private land, Stirling Council has no statutory responsibility and the Community Council would need to find a way to resolve the matter.

Mye Path - Stirling Council believe the path is still passable and is not encroached and are choosing not to use legislation. There has been a report of rats around the caravan. A member of the public advised that SEPA have been out and looked at the area. Not much progress with Mye Path.

Action: Gary has taken a note of the issue

5. Leave of Absence

Jessica is dealing with health issues and was granted a four-month leave of absence to focus on her wellbeing. This will be reviewed in December. Everyone agreed to the leave of absence. Jessica will continue to support the Youth Café.

6. The Play Park and Youth Café – Margaret Bennie

Youth café

Youth Café stars back for the autumn term tomorrow evening Friday 28th August for all S1 to S6 pupils. We are delighted to have the very experienced Kat Stephen running the sessions along with a PVG volunteer each week. Last term we had lots of funds outdoors and ended our summer term with an "its and Knockout" competition, hot dogs and a water fight and a great time was had by all.

Jessica and Fionna did a great job applying for grants successfully over the summer and we have several outings planned over the next few months: 11th September and 4th December we will all head to The Peak in Stirling for Rock Climbing and Badminton. Mountain biking session date to be confirmed, Balfrom Pool swimming evenings, baking and outdoor activities, pool, table tennis, plus lots of games, singing, dancing and fun ideas.

We are always looking for volunteers to spread the duties so if you like working with young people and have a particular interest or talent please get in touch with BCC.

Buchlyive Playpark

Our playpark has been undergoing a bit of a makeover since June. Jessica and I met with council workers to look at the issues that needed to be addressed.

The grass has been cut and work to repair structures and remove moss and grime has started. The wooden edging and playbark around the swings have been replaced and the metal framework has been given a fresh coat of red paint.

The pea gravel around the voucher itself and the roundabout has been topped up and some moss treatment applied to the boulder itself. The train has been cleaned, as had the roundabout and seesaw Jessica and I tested it to make sure it was working well.

The scramble net has been cleared of all the weeds, as have the stone steps up the banking. There is still some runner matting to be replaced and a preservative treatment applied to the wooden structures.

The council have scheduled the works in, and it will hopefully be completed soon.

7. Chairs Report – Maureen Burnside
Nothing all the main points covered some maters arising.

8. Treasurers Report – Fionna Armour
Current balance - £5355.00
Ringfenced - £1900.00 for CC, Youth Café £3774.00 and Community Hub
Jesssica has secured a grant for £1538.00 from Rural Action Fund for Youth Café
Usual expenditure including Youth Café Worker, Minute Taking and Hall Hire total £ 969.00.

Awaiting Admin and Minute taking grant which is being reviewed as the CC struggle to do the basics with the amount provided, unsure if it will change but Stirling Council are taking feedback.

9. Planning Report – Colin Mutch
Only one application which is for 38 Main Street Buchlyvie FK8 3LX
Proposal: Down taking of existing porch, replacement of external door and installation of access ramp
Date application received: Tuesday 9th June 2026

Date Validated: Wednesday 17th June 2026 and there was a decision to approve with conditions with the reason being the proposal to remove a modern porch and install storm doors which reflect the local architectural style in this part of Buchlyvie will enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area. There were no enforcements.

10. Police Report – Colin Mutch

- Theft of an old scrape car battery which was taken from a garage. Due to the low value, there was no proportionate blame or enquiry.
- Road traffic incident where a vehicle reversed into another parked car. The driver apologised but did not exchange details.
- A call was made to the police to report that an aircraft engine cut out, and it was seen falling from the sky. The Police advised this is normal for pilot training which happens in the area.

11. Adoption of Minutes of the last meeting held on 11 June 2026.

All seen the minutes prior to the meeting.

Proposed by CM
Seconded by MB

Action: Cathy to add to website and Alison to send to Stephen Bly.

12. Matters Arising

- Asif in shop asked CC for permission to install lockers on the gable end at the bus stop, SC wanted CC to say if they approved it, the CC are happy for the lockers to be installed but are unsure if they have bene delivered yet.
- LDP – Stirling Council plans to build new houses took no account of LDP, lots of time for CC to be consulted. CC filled in questionnaire opposed each site as they want any housing to meet the needs of Buchlyvie and include small homes for older and younger people to rent and buy.
- Plans for Balfron be upgraded to a local hub. There are concerns that this may centralise services, however no proof that this will happen.

13. AOCB

- **Update following the Emergency Briefing Film on Tuesday 25th August -** Ann Winters wanted to say a few works following the People Emergency Briefing by the Buchlyvie Eco-group. There was a good response to the event and Anne has written a report. This is the star of the conversation that ties in with the LDP and the work of the Development Trust.

  The event was open to all and included a 30 min discussion after the screening and all responses were collated. The idea came from the Buchlyvie Eco-group which is made up of Buchlyvie and Gartmore eco-congregation. People were invited to the event to share alarm at the climate and nature crisis and build capacity in communities to be able to respond. Thank especially got to Margaret Sparkes for driving this forward. Bill Keeping for all

the technical support and making the church available for the event as well as the team of volunteers. Approximately 75 people attended including three SC councillors, Gerry McGarvey gave a short address at the start of the film and the implications for actions arising. The film was obtained from nebriefing.org and the film can be found online but is not available to download as it was designed to ne watched together in communities as part of honest conversation and constructive engagement. The film has already been screened in 2000 communities and businesses with a further 1000 planned in the next three months and one in Dunblane next month and one for Stirling Council.

Across the UK, people are coming together to ensure that the risks are properly understood and respond to them with the seriousness they require. The group are keen that Councillors attend the screenings and take to the next full council meeting. The initiative began at Westminster Central Hall.

The main words used in the feedback were anger, frustration, sad, terrified, powerful and spread the work. The key takes away is the need for leaders to do more.

The next meeting of the Eco-group will be on 15th September. The Southwest Stirling climate action network is free to join. It was highlighted that there are lots of people interested in retrofitting houses but don't know where to turn – SWCAN have funding for a project taking on volunteers trained on alternative energy and will be a contact have one volunteers have someone else in mind. Will give advice on how to move things forward. Network of recommended providers.

- **Notice of By-Election for New Community Councillor –** There will be a by-election on **1**st October due to the death of Paul Henke. The CC don't know who the candidates will be.

14. Residents Forum

- The electric charger in the village is not working properly, and this has been the case for 8 or 9 months. It has been repaired recently by Stirling Council but is only semi fixed.
  Action: Gary Neill will take as an action.
- Buses – A member of the public advised that Buchlvie has now lost two early morning buses to Glasgow, which means that people can't get to college in Glasgow as the bus now starts from Balfron in the morning. The last bus is 8.40pm which is also causing issues.

15. Date of next meeting – Change from 22 to 29th October 2026